

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

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REPORT NO. _____

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TOPIC Military Activities in Brandenburg and Rathenow

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EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____

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DATE OF CONTENT _____

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DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 11 August 1955

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 25 July 1955, several units of the artillery brigade left the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne (2001) in Brandenburg by road and proceeded southwestward. Judging from the number of windows lighted at dusk, the installation was 35 percent occupied.¹

2. At about 2200 on 24 July, the units in the Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne were alerted. At 0030 on 25 July, the units left with full field equipment toward the town. The following weapons and vehicles were observed: 120 trucks, 33 tractors with T-34 chassis, 16 two-load 203-mm howitzers, 3 field kitchens, 6 field offices, and 1 ambulance. The vehicles carried a small number of soldiers. After the departure of the unit, the installation was occupied by only a rear detail.¹

3. At 1600 on 20 July, approximately 72 trucks towing 4 field kitchens and 3 M-13 rocket launchers passed through Genthin and proceeded toward Rathenow. Some of the trucks carried personnel and billeting equipment. _____ At 1930, the column entered the Kraftfahrer Kaserne (5443) in Rathenow.²

4. On 20 July, a column of approximately 60 trucks carrying furniture and some 600 soldiers, 3 field kitchens, 2 radio trucks, and 4 repair-shop trucks was seen in Rathenow. No guns were observed. The units entered the Kraftfahrer Kaserne (5443), the Pionier Kaserne (5442), and the Infanterie Kaserne (5441) in Rathenow.²

1. Comment. Large elements of the 124th Hvy How Arty Brig are quite definite believed to have left the post for exercises. Since no loadings were observed, the units apparently transferred by road, possibly to Altengrabow or to the Brandenburg Forest, northwest of Brandenburg.

2. Comment. The rear details of the 6th Arty Div, which left the three Waldkasernen on 19 July, may have returned to the post. _____ Since the returning units apparently included major elements of the 25th Gds RL Brig, there is reason to believe that units of the brigade, the departure of which had not been observed, had in the meantime transferred to Altengrabow by road.